

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
ABINGDON DIVISION**

**CRIMINAL MINUTES – JURY TRIAL
Day 11**

Case No.: 1:17CR27

Date: 12/18/2024

Defendant: Joel Smithers, Custody

**Counsel: Beau Brindley, Retained
Edward McDavid, Retained
Michael Thompson, Retained**

PRESENT: JUDGE: James P. Jones
Deputy Clerk: Felicia Clark
Court Reporter: Cynthia Bragg, OCR
U. S. Attorney: Randy Ramseyer, Corey Hall, & Suzanne Kerney-Quillen
USPO: Not Present
Case Agent: Patrick Long

Time In Court: 9:04 a.m. – 10:32 a.m.
10:55 a.m. – 12:12 p.m.
2:31 p.m. – 3:46 p.m.

TOTAL TIME IN COURT: 4 hours

LIST OF WITNESSES

GOVERNMENT	DEFENDANT
1.	1. Joel Smithers 2. Dr. James Murphy

PROCEEDINGS:

- Defendant presents evidence.
 Defendant remanded to custody.

Additional Information:

9:04 a.m. – Jury Trial – Day 11 held. All parties were present and ready to proceed. Court discussed the government's proposed plea agreement with the defendant. Defendant rejected plea

agreement. Jurors were brought into the courtroom. Court recessed at 10:32 a.m. Court resumed at 10:55 a.m. Jurors were released for the day to return on 12/19/24 at 9:00 a.m. Juror Stowers was excused from the remainder of the jury trial. Outside the presence of the jury, court discussed additional proposed jury instructions with counsel. Court will reconvene at 2:30 p.m. to discuss jury instructions with counsel. Court recessed at 12:12 p.m. Court resumed at 2:31 p.m. Court discussed proposed jury instructions with counsel. Oral argument by counsel. Court adjourned at 3:46 p.m. Defendant was remanded to custody.